

## Tuition compromise

The U of A tweaks its tuition plans during a marathon board meeting.

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## Something's fishy

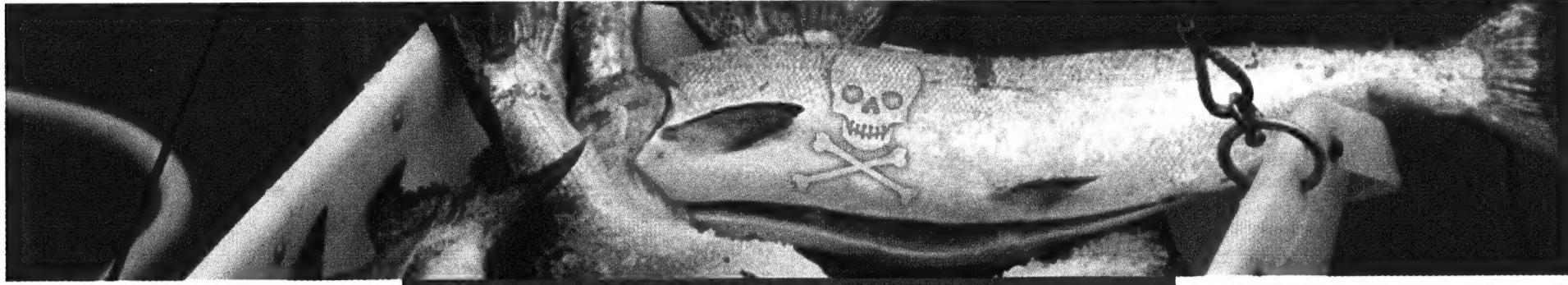
That salmon you enjoyed last night was probably raised on a fish farm. Researchers say that's bad for you, and the environment.

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## Healing mission

A medical mission to South America will heal patients and teach students.

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UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA

# folio

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<http://www.ualberta.ca/folio>

## Making music in the heart of the city

**Student's inner-city program's a hit with pupils and teachers**

By Geoff McMaster

Not a huge fan of long meetings and organizational details, Chantal Chauvet wanted to give back to the community in a way that suited her personality.

When the Faculté Saint-Jean education student heard how starved inner-city kids are for music education, she quickly stepped up and offered to start a piano program.

That was less than a year ago. Now she and 17 other volunteers from the U of A, both students and instructors, give weekly piano lessons to students at three inner-city schools – Spruce Avenue, Norwood and McCauley. Chauvet is even looking at officially registering her Heart of the City Piano Program, modeled after a similar initiative in Saskatchewan, and establishing a board of directors.

"I didn't expect to actually get something going and see everything fall so nicely into place," she said. "It's just wonderful and to know it's making a change in the children's lives as well as for the volunteers."

Chauvet was surprised to learn that all she had to do was ask and volunteers were lining up to participate. One music instructor even offered to give sessions to music teachers "which was a wonderful surprise," said Chauvet.

Mustering up enthusiasm in the kids themselves was a cinch.

"One child said it was a dream of his to have piano lessons," said Chauvet. "That basically shows you what the whole program is all about."

Erin Kjofneff, the music teacher at Spruce Avenue Elementary and Junior High School, said once the program was in place "students were lining up at the door to start lessons." With only three keyboards, the school could only start 12 students, and it now has a waiting list.

Volunteers spend one to 1-1/2 hours every week giving three students 20-minute lessons. Students are expected to practice every day for 15 or 20 minutes, either before school or during recess.

"They've come a long way since they



Piano student Michella Dahlge, 11, takes a lesson with Chantal Chauvet. A Faculté Saint-Jean education student, Chauvet started the City Piano Program in October.

first started (in October)," says Kjofneff. They were just plunking one note at a time, and now they're doing songs by themselves without any help during practice time."

Because of the waiting list, says Chauvet, the ones lucky enough to be enrolled know they have to be dedicated. "They know that if they are part of the program, it's a privilege, so they do practice. They know that if they don't, we assume they're not interested and they'll be pulled off."

Ten-year-old Creinda Kozar says she's already learned a lot since starting the program in October. "It's been fun," she said, "but sort of frustrating. When you don't get it right, you don't feel like you can do it again." She admits, however, that when she does get it right, there's no feeling like it.

As a gesture of support the Winspear Centre has also stepped forward with 70 tickets for students and volunteers to see the Edmonton Symphony this Sunday. On the program: Beethoven's *Creatures of*

*Prometheus Overture* and *Piano Concerto No. 4*, Tchaikovsky's *Fantasy-Overture from Romeo & Juliet* and Bernstein's *Symphonic Dances from West Side Story*. The students will even get a chance to meet the symphony's pianist, Naida Cole.

Later in the year Chauvet hopes to bring the students to the U of A to hear a music recital.

"This helps the older students look forward and see that you can finish school and continue on in university," she said. ■

# Board approves 6.9 per cent tuition hike and differential fees

**Proposal altered to help business students**

By Richard Cairney

The University of Alberta Board of Governors came to a compromise position on a controversial proposal to increase tuition fees and introduce differential tuition fees in some faculties.

In a marathon 4 1/2 hour meeting Jan. 17, most of which was spent debating tuition fees, board members amended a proposal that would have seen a general 6.4 per cent tuition increase for the coming year, along with differential fees that would have sparked even greater increases for students studying business, medicine, and law.

A last-minute plea by the student board members saw the proposal changed. Because the province's Student Finance Board cannot guarantee it will raise maximum loan levels for students working towards a B.comm degree, the board scrapped a proposal that would have increased tuition fees for these students by \$700 to \$4,990.

That decision caused the proposed overall tuition increase to rise to 6.9 per cent.

Citing rising costs and fierce competition for faculty from other universities – most of which already charge differential



U of A students Mariel Dagot and Mary Belcourt pack up their tent in front of University Hall. Students camped out to protest tuition increases.

fees – the Faculty of Law, the Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry, and the School of Business had requested differential fees. They also proposed directing 20 - 30 per cent of the revenues towards scholarships and bursaries, enabling lower-income students to join the faculties.

But student leaders argued passionately against differential fees, suggesting a 7.5 per cent across-the-board increase, which would raise an equivalent amount of tuition revenue as the differential fee increase, was "the lesser of two evils." Though bound by Students' Union policies to vote against any tuition fee hikes, student board members said they'd support directing funds from the general increase towards the faculties seeking differential tuition fees.

"I am willing to walk the walk and talk the talk in front of the APC (Academic Priorities Committee) to make sure that those faculties get that money," said Students' Union President Mike Hudema, who has been leading a campaign against the tuition hikes, which culminated in an all-night camp-out in front of University Hall.

Graduate Students' Association President Brad Wuetherick cautioned the board against implementing differential fees, calling it a "slippery slope" and pre-

dicting a flood of similar requests from other faculties next year.

Student representative Mike Reid argued the same point. "I understand these faculties are in crisis," he said of the proposal. "But we have no policies in place. What distinguishes a good differential from a bad differential?"

Provost and Vice President (Academic) Dr. Doug Owram said the students' counterproposal would set a precedent of implementing hidden differential fees.

If the counterproposal were approved, Owram said, faculties could come to the board knowing their request for differential fees would be denied, but also aware that they might be guaranteed the extra tuition revenues from an across-the-board increase.

"It's another kind of slippery slope," Owram said of the plan. And by denying the proposal to implement a differential fee to business students, he added, the board "has sent a clear signal that we will only move on this very cautiously."

The board approved a 6.9 per cent general tuition increase and agreed to implement differential tuition fees. For medical students, tuition will rise more than \$2,000 per year for the next three years, to \$12,037 per year in 2005-06. Tuition for law students will grow to \$8,575 in 2004-05 from

the current \$4,300 per year. The cost to enter the MBA program will rise to \$9,778 in 2004-05 from \$4,491 this year. All of the increases will be grandfathered, and will not affect students currently enrolled in these programs.

The students and their board colleagues do have some common ground in the belief that the provincial government must increase its financial support to the university, which has declined dramatically during the past decade.

Albertans need to be made aware of the situation, said Board Chair Jim Edwards. "Let us take that as our next mission, and at the same time recognize that it is public opinion that must be brought to bear on those elected officials," he said.

The Students' Union won't waste any time on that front. After the board meeting, Hudema told a crowd of about 60 supporters that the Students' Union intends to launch a provincial awareness campaign about the rising cost of tuition.

"We lost the decision, but what we have started is a more active student population," he said, announcing plans for students to make presentations to high school students and parent councils across the province to discuss accessibility to education and soaring tuition rates. ■

## folio

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## New budget may include another cut

### One per cent makes a \$3 million difference

By Richard Cairney

When the University of Alberta Board of Governors approves the 2003 – 2004 budget in March, it will likely include a one per cent spending cut added on to the current spending reductions.

Vice President (Finance and Administration) Phyllis Clark told the Board at their meeting Jan. 17 that the university is considering implementing a one per cent across-the-board spending cut in the upcoming budget.

The Executive Planning Committee, she said, has approved the proposal. The proposed budget will proceed to the Board

Finance and Property Committee's Feb. 28 meeting and will be up for the Board of Governors' approval March 14.

The proposed cut is in addition to the 1.2 per cent cuts to faculties and the 1.5 per cent cuts to administrative units already in place.

"A one per cent cut equals a \$3 million difference in terms of the impact on our operating deficit," Clark said. "And given that our forecast deficit for (next year) is \$7.9 million, this is the difference between a \$10.9 million deficit and a \$7.9 million deficit – that's a big difference." ■

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# Good fish, bad fish?

**Science and industry go head to head over fish farming**

By Richard Cairney

**F**ish is a part of any healthy diet, right?

Not necessarily, says University of Alberta fisheries ecologist Dr. John Volpe, who believes the farmed salmon found on supermarket shelves represent a major environmental threat and probably aren't good for you.

It isn't widely known on the Prairies, but almost all of the fresh salmon sold at supermarkets and served at restaurants is grown in one of approximately 100 ocean-based salmon farms that dot the waters off the British Columbia West Coast. The salmon, Volpe says, have high concentrations of toxins because of their diet – the salmon farming industry feeds their stocks a high-fat diet, he says.

The fat in that diet comes from fish like mackerel and anchovies harvested from southern oceans. When the catch is processed, its fatty content is separated and forms a major ingredient in the food fed to farmed salmon – along with antibiotics and a synthesized chemical, which gives the fish a healthy-looking, pink glow.

The trouble with that diet, says Volpe, is that fat is where toxins, like dioxins and PCBs, are stored. By feeding their captive fish high-fat diets, farmers are also multiplying the amount of toxins they'd ingest in the wild. At the same time, he observes, South American fisheries are being depleted in order to feed farmed fish, which are grown to compensate for the collapse of North American fisheries.

It gets worse. According to Volpe, a salmon absorbs only 15 to 17 per cent of the nutrients it eats – the rest of it is excreted and falls to the ocean floor along with food that isn't even consumed in the first place. The fish are hemmed in nets and farmed in close, crowded conditions; Atlantic salmon are farmed because they survive such conditions better than Pacific salmon do.

But farm fish escape when animals or boats rip holes in the enclosures. Last year, Volpe published a report that showed escaped Atlantic salmon are surviving and spawning in Pacific salmon territory, and he fears the more aggressive breed may muscle the docile B.C. fish out of its own territory.

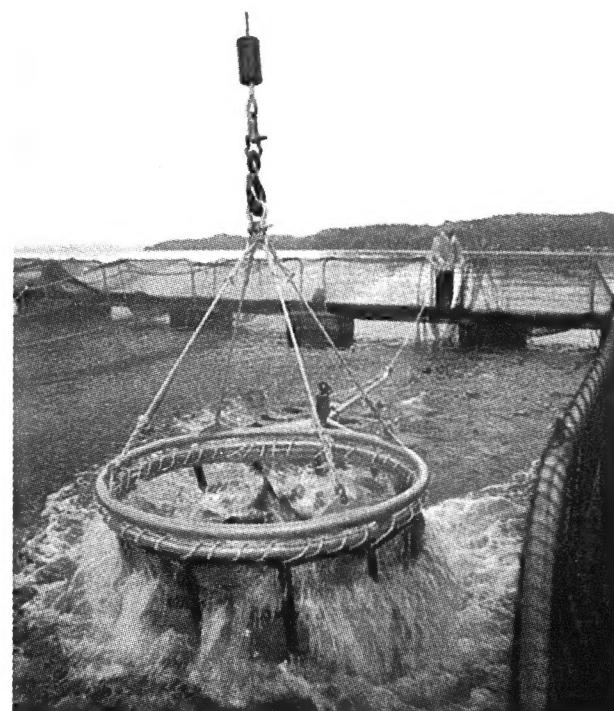
If that doesn't happen, Volpe fears, disease spread from the fish farms will further decimate Pacific salmon, which are already vanishing at an alarming rate. At the Broughton Archipelago on the West Coast last year, fishers were expecting four million Chinook salmon to return to freshwater rivers to spawn – an estimated 50,000 showed up.

"We are witnessing the complete collapse of Pacific salmon populations," Volpe said, adding that disease from the farmed fish may just finish the job.

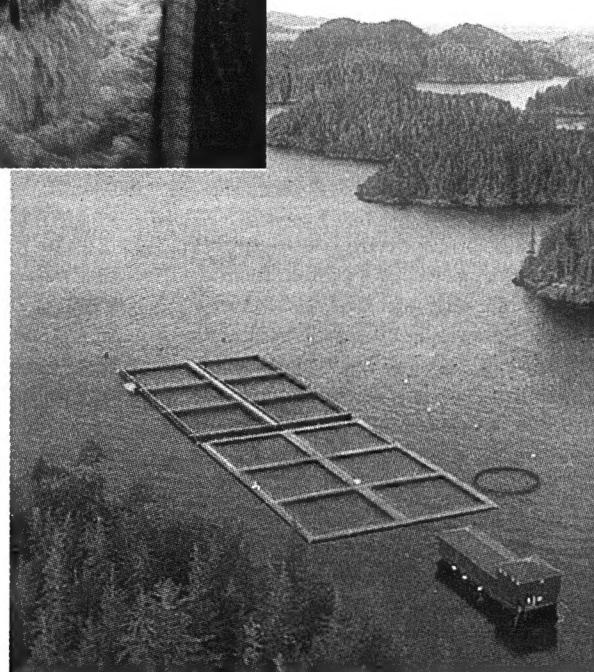
Sea lice are a common parasite that prey on salmon. But when there is an outbreak of sea lice at a salmon farm, antibiotics used to battle the infestation don't affect the sea lice that float beyond the enclosure.

"You've got these farms producing, literally, clouds of sea lice in the water, and these farms are located in the belly of bays – where salmon rivers flow into the ocean," said Volpe. "The smaller salmon that leave those rivers are going to have to swim through those clouds of sea lice – and two lice will kill them."

Farmed fish, Volpe says, are unhealthy – and he characterizes the fish farming indus-



Fish farms along the West Coast are under attack from environmental groups, and researchers are finding fault with the way the industry operates.



B.C. Salmon Farmers Association

try as an ecological menace.

But government and the industry itself dispute findings by scientists like Volpe and claims made by groups like The David Suzuki Foundation and The Friends of Clayquot Sound, which are highly critical of fish farms, comparing them to ocean-bound feedlots.

For years, aboriginal groups and environmentalists have been at odds with fish farmers. Last summer, anti-fish farm protesters dumped a rotting salmon at the B.C. legislature. Native groups have long demanded that the province stop expansion of the industry. But the B.C. government has just lifted a seven-year moratorium on the number of allowed fish farms in response to concerns about the impact the operations have on the environment.

For consumers, though, the first question is one of safety – is it OK to eat farmed salmon? Klaus Schallie, an aquaculture and shellfish specialist with the Canadian Food Inspection Agency in Vancouver, says it is.

"This is one of these issues where the science is beyond the ken of a large percentage of the public, so you've got a lot of conflicting information," Schallie said.

The fish farming industry conducts its own tests for toxins and levels of antibiotics and the agency follows up on that self-regulation with "statistically significant spot checks," Schallie said.

"We test farmed salmon and wild salmon – we test pretty well every kind of seafood on the market in Canada – for chemicals of concern. And farmed salmon is a perfectly safe food," he said. "There are no harmful levels of contaminants."

But even if the product is healthy, environmental concerns abound. Environmentally responsible consumers may not want to purchase a product if it pollutes the oceans and exploits southern fish stocks as a food source to prop up an industry that is growing only because we've overfished our own fish stocks.

Brad Hicks has been involved in salmon fish farming as an owner and employee since the early 1970s. A veteri-

been breeding and releasing salmon stock for years.

"When you get into arguments about genetic pollution and blah, blah, blah, you can't pick on farmers . . . that has occurred for a long time and has absolutely nothing to do with fish farmers," he said. "The horse has already escaped from the barn if that is even an issue."

Volpe insists it is. "Hatcheries produce fish for the purpose of supplementing sport fishing because a fish is a fish is a fish, (but) that has been demonstrated to be categorically wrong," he said. Salmon populations return generation after generation to the same spawning grounds and after thousands of years "tailor themselves" to the specific characteristics of that river system. Fish stock A from one river will be different than fish stock B from another river, he says.

"If you then say 'a salmon is a salmon' is a salmon' and rear stock C in a hatchery . . . and allow C to breed with A and B, we now have a coast-wide homogenous single mongrel stock with none of the requisite characteristics that allowed stock A to exploit the resources in its environment."

In fact, Volpe suspects a Department of Fisheries doesn't get accurate reports from B.C. fishers about the number of escaped Atlantic salmon they catch. He has just created a 1-800 line, asking those fishers to report escaped salmon they've captured.

Given the conflicting views, it's difficult to know whether farmed fish are good or bad. Hicks has a financial interest in the industry – why should he be believed?

"The overlying issue here is whether or not we are going to privatize the last commons," he said. "That is what is really underlying the debate. The reason you see all this other stuff that doesn't make a whole lot of sense . . . why are they describing us as a threat rather than as we are? Because they can regulate us, which gives them power when it comes to developing public policy. The issues aren't environmental issues per se."

And for his part, Volpe asks only that people consider scientific evidence.

"I would ask, 'Where is the data?' The difference is that there is a mounting pile of peer reviewed independent research all pointing in the same direction. It's countered from the industry and government with a lot of misdirection and smoke and mirrors. 'Don't worry, be happy.' I say let the weight of the evidence speak for itself." ■

## FURTHER READING

The following Web sites provide more information about the debate over fish farming:

- Dr. John Volpe's Atlantic Salmon research Web site: [http://www.biology.ualberta.ca/faculty/john\\_volpe/salmon/atlantics/index.html](http://www.biology.ualberta.ca/faculty/john_volpe/salmon/atlantics/index.html)
- The Coastal Alliance for Aquaculture Reform: <http://www.farmedanddangerous.org/>
- Salmon Nation: <http://www.salmonnation.com/>
- CBC Marketplace story *Farm Raised Salmon*: <http://www.cbc.ca/consumers/market/files/food/salmon/index.html>
- The B.C. Salmon Farmers Association: <http://www.salmofarmers.org/>
- The B.C. Salmon Marketing Council <http://www.bcsalmon.ca/index.html>

# Medical group on mission to Ecuador

New partnership will help train South American medical staff and residents

By Richard Cairney

A 25-member medical mission is on its way to Ecuador to perform about 100 orthopedic surgeries and help train medical residents, faculty and nurses at the University of San Francisco in Quito.

The trip is the fourth undertaken by the group, which is led by Dr. Marc Moreau, associate dean of admissions in the University of Alberta Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry and a pediatric orthopedic surgeon at the Stollery Children's Hospital. But this year's mission represents the first time the group has teamed up with the Quito university. During previous trips, the group performed surgeries in the city of Cuenca. Last year, the USFQ approached the team asking for help.

Because of hectic schedules, the university's officials couldn't meet with the Edmonton team until very late at night.

"The dean of medicine at this university met us at midnight and spoke to us and said they had a few areas of community service in terrible need of help and that they'd like us to get involved," said Moreau.

"Our mission is to heal, but it is also to teach, with a capital T. We thought, 'Here is the dean of medicine appearing at midnight to ask us for help - he is obviously serious.'"

Last fall the U of A and USFQ formalized the arrangement, and the medical group has become more formalized in its own way. Called the Canadian Association of Medical Teams Abroad, the non-profit group hopes to spawn similar efforts across the country and around the world.

"We are trying to set up a model to bring people from North America to developing countries in a program where they can feel safe and help out. The Third World wants to be taught - they don't want to be charity cases. And we are keen on giving them the fishing pole instead of just the fish. We are trying to get the teaching underway so these people can do these things on their own."

The group of 25 medical personnel, which includes three surgeons, four anesthetists, and an anesthetic technician, as well as a family physician, a physiotherapist, 11 nurses, and a handful of lay work-

ers, won't have time for sight-seeing during the Jan. 24 - Feb. 4 trip. In preparation, the group has packed about 50 hockey equipment bags, each weighing 70 lbs. The contents include everything from gowns and masks to surgical tools and equipment, intravenous fluids, tubing, needles, and actual prosthetics required to perform the surgeries.

Even though they're packing state-of-the-art equipment, the team will need to adapt to local conditions. During earlier trips to Cuenca, surgical tools were sent by taxi to another nearby hospital to be sterilized, then returned to the surgeons before the next procedure. The same will happen in Quito.

"We are working in an environment where they don't necessarily have the wonderful tools we have, and one such tool is sterilizers. We bring down stuff to do total hips in very arthritic people, and so all our trays are big - you can't take them apart - the sterilizer at one hospital is the size of a microwave oven so that doesn't do it."

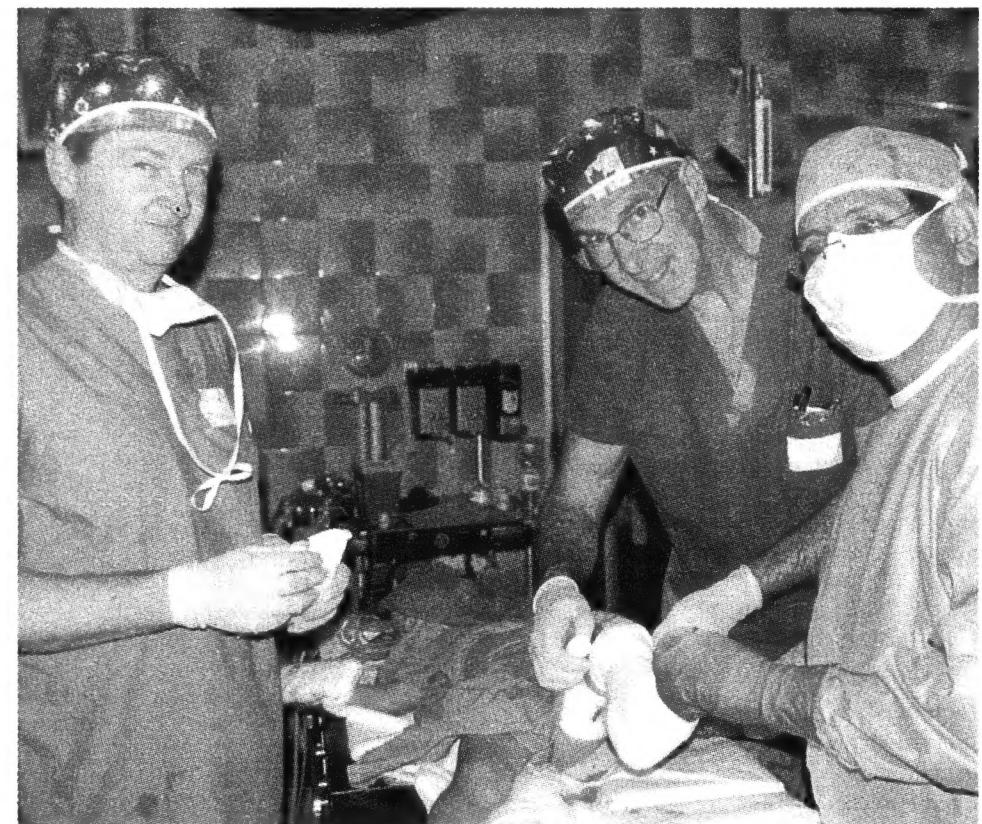
"The hospital we are at is a nice little hospital; it is clean but pretty basic. You have to adjust to what is there."

When the team arrives, local doctors set up a clinic, where patients will be assessed. "We'll see 100 or 150 people and we triage and pick out the ones we know we can do and the ones that are most needed."

Need is an important consideration, Moreau said. Ecuador's economic landscape is faltering, and that has had a tremendous impact on public health.

"The middle class has become poor so the guy who had a house and a car now can't buy anything but electricity for his home and food for his family, and then he gets a kid with a club foot - they just fall by the wayside. This is a group of people who were managing reasonably well and have now become part of the working poor. Then when you take the poor people, they are even worse off . . . they don't have socialized medicine there."

Moreau's colleague, orthopedic surgeon Dr. Greg O'Connor, will go and give someone two new hips so they can go



University of Alberta orthopedic surgeons Dr. John McIvor and Dr. Marc Moreau work with Ecuadorian counterpart Dr. Carlos Bernal during a mission to Cuenca last year. The 25-member Edmonton medical team is now in Quito to perform surgeries and help train medical staff, residents and nurses.

back and be a vital part of their families. And as a pediatric orthopedic surgeon, Moreau said, "We get kids who can't walk, and we give them a chance."

The time and effort and goods are all donated - no one earns a cent from the trip. Funds for the excursion, estimated to cost in the neighbourhood of \$150,000, have been donated by individuals, businesses, and service clubs. Moreau said this year's trip should set the stage for even more support.

"We hope we can divide ourselves into two groups that bring other people on board and go a couple of times a year - we don't want to split up but that is what has to be done . . . this is a watershed year as far as we are concerned."

Moreau said Alberta and Ecuador both have an active oil and gas industry, and he sees that as a fundraising opportunity. "We want these people to have a chance to give

back," he said of the resource companies. "But I'm more of an orthopedic surgeon than a fund raiser."

If it's so much work, why bother?

"Boy, it's a complicated answer," said Moreau. "Part of it is an innate desire to be able to give the basics to people. Around the world, one in every 1,000 kids is born with a club foot - that doesn't change no matter where you go. So a kid born in Edmonton with a club foot, we can take care of him in a very short time, and he lives a normal life and kicks soccer balls around. But if you're born in Ecuador with a club foot? It doesn't make sense that they can't be looked after."

"The other kind of situation is if you take a woman who's 32 with five kids and her husband has left her . . . and you go put two new hips in her and she gets a job and can take care of her kids - there is something that is right about that." ■

# Volleyball player gets anonymous boost

*U of A donation helps the whole team*

By Chelsea Clogg

Between games, practices, travelling, and studying, varsity athletes have little time for anything else, including part-time jobs.

"We practice three to four hours a day, we're away every second weekend, and we play every Friday and Saturday. I also try to study about three hours a night," said Jossann McKenzie, a middle blocker for the University of Alberta Pandas volleyball team and a two-time Academic All-Canadian.

With so little time to work, many athletes find themselves struggling to make ends meet. As a result, many athletes rely on scholarships, bursaries, and sponsorships to help them pay for the expenses associated with playing competitive sports. In light of this challenge, McKenzie, the Pandas MVP last year, was thrilled to learn she was the recipient of a \$200 Adopt-An-Athlete sponsorship.

Adopt-An-Athlete provides staff, alumni, friends and family with a way of showing their support for U of A Golden Bears and Pandas teams. The funds generated from the Adopt-An-Athlete program go

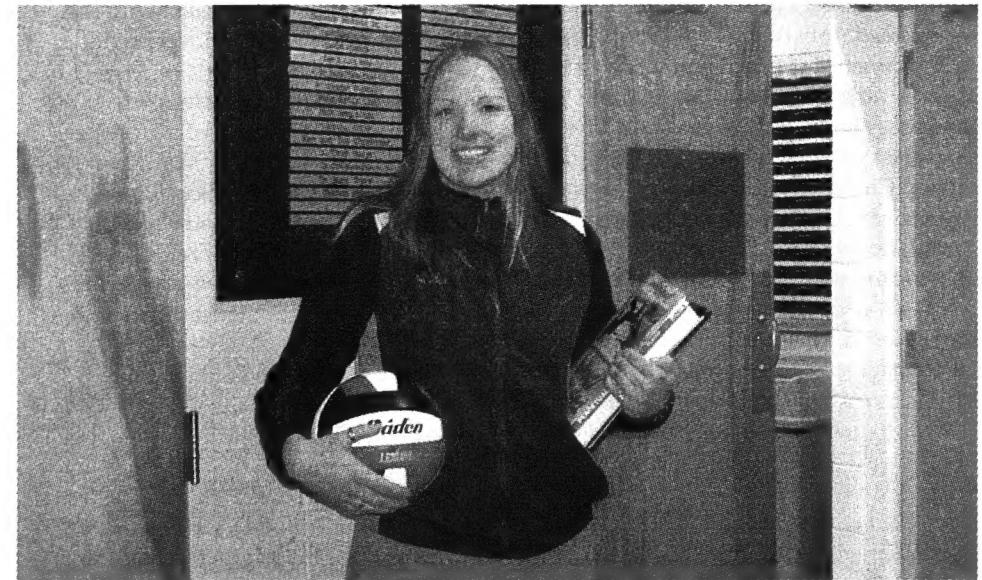
## Gifts in Action

directly to the team to help cover the costs of travel, uniforms, and equipment. "In August, our team went to Japan, so the money went straight toward the plane ticket," said the fifth-year education student.

McKenzie, who has won two national championships with the Pandas so far in her career, said she would love to show her appreciation to her Adopt-An-Athlete sponsor, but she doesn't know whom to thank. All she knows is that a U of A staff member adopted her.

"Many U of A donors, including faculty and staff, choose to give their gift anonymously for several reasons: confidentiality, lack of a need for recognition, or they are just plain shy," said Jeff Wright, Special Projects Co-ordinator in Annual Giving. "In fact, the U of A receives between 50 and 150 anonymous gifts of \$10,000 or less every year."

For McKenzie, sponsorship through the Adopt-An-Athlete meant one less



Pandas volleyball player Jossann McKenzie is thankful to an anonymous U of A donor who supports her team.

worry in her hectic schedule, and for that she is grateful. "I want to tell my sponsor that the donation was a great surprise, and I really appreciate the support."

(*Gifts in Action* is a recurring series in

*Folio*, with the 2003 Family Campaign just around the corner. For further information on Faculty and Staff Gifts in Action contact Jeff Wright at the Development Office, 492-6765.) ■

# Tuition hikes: how we can help students

We need to address all of a student's concerns

By Dr. Gregory Taylor

We all know tuition at the University of Alberta is on the rise, as it is in most universities across Canada. A 6.9 per cent tuition increase has been approved for the upcoming year. This would mean the average science student will be paying an additional \$278 for tuition per year. There is nothing we can do about rising tuition costs; however, there may be other ways in which we can save our students some money. One such way may be in the cost of textbooks.

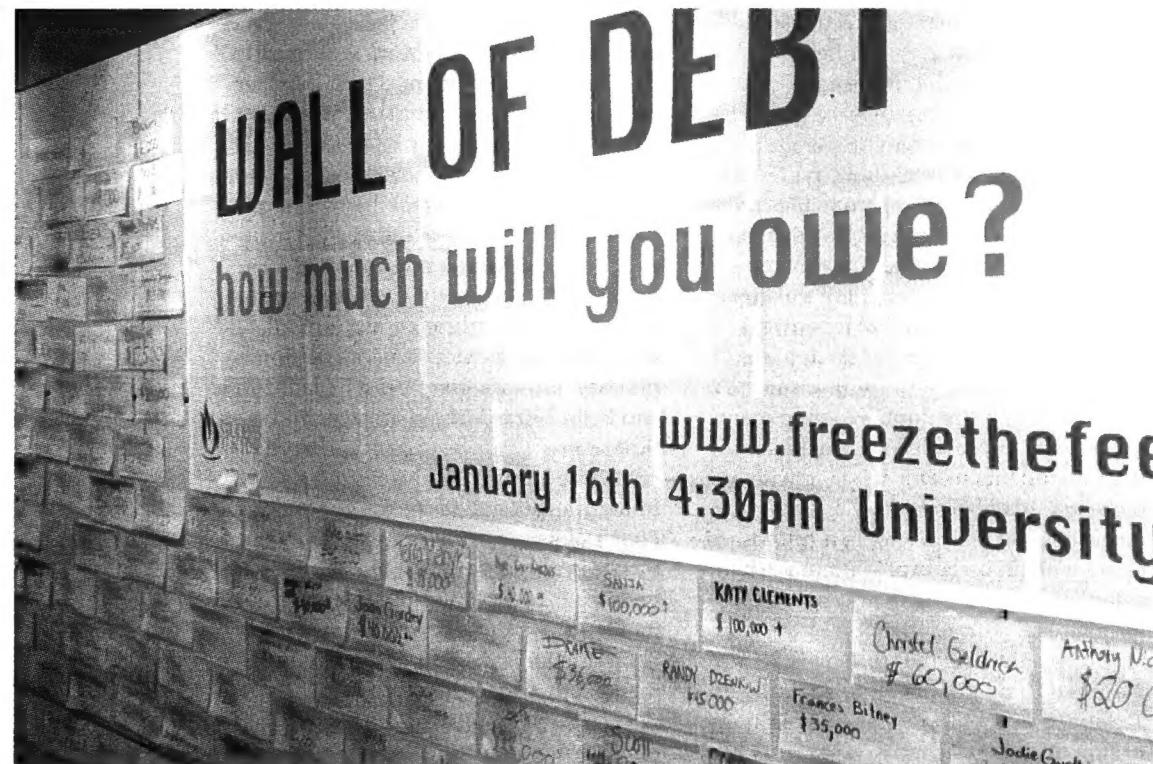
A typical first-year science student will spend, on average, a little more than \$1,000 on textbooks and lab manuals, with some courses totaling over \$250 in required material. Buying used books may be an option for some classes and could help save about 20 per cent, but not all books are available used, and often the same book is not used the next year. This is where we may be able to take action.

Many instructors and the U of A are already conscious of the cost of books. For example, Dr. Bill Page prescribed a textbook for his students after meeting with the publisher's representative. He was told the cost would be kept down, but when it came time for the students to purchase the book the price was \$168, considerably higher than first quoted. Dr. Page made a decision not to make the textbook a requirement; the price has since dropped to \$126. He still recommends that students use the book, but suggests that they can use up to two earlier editions.

Another example is Dr. Bill Samuel, who decided not to use a textbook in his Wildlife Disease class as it would have cost students approximately \$130. Rather than have them purchase the book, exceptional as it was, Dr. Samuel decided not to make it a requirement. Instead, he made the best resource materials available using a sign-out procedure. He also encourages colleagues from various agencies to 'donate' materials, which are then provided to the students.

In an effort to help our students offset

Buying used books may be an option for some classes and could help save about 20 per cent, but not all books are available used, and often the same book is not used the next year.



Students did what they could to freeze tuition fees. Faculty can take steps to help control students' costs in the classroom.

the rise in tuition by providing savings in other areas, I am asking that you consider possible ways to decrease textbook costs. When you are selecting a textbook for your course, please consider these questions:

- Do the students need a textbook?
- Is the material students require available elsewhere – i.e. online, in the library?
- Is creating a Course pack an option? (Course packs are cost-effective, legally produced – copyright is paid – compilations of academic material put together by instructors then organized, printed and bound at the Student Union Print Centre and sold through the bookstore. Used effectively, these course packs can help make the cost of materials for a course cheaper for students. If you would like more information on Course Packs: Contact Info: 492-9113/8862 or [printcentre@su.ualberta.ca](mailto:printcentre@su.ualberta.ca).)
- Do I need a new edition?
- Can the same text be used as last year?
- Is there such a substantial change in content or is the information available in last year's text OK?
- Can I suggest to students that there is a new edition but that all of the necessary information can be found in previous editions?
- Can the relevant text content be incorporated into lectures, with references given should the student want to look it up?
- Is there someone in the department teaching a different level of the subject that can utilize information in the same text? (Many textbooks are designed to cover a full year's study, based on U.S. curriculum, and you may only require a part of it. Someone else may be able to use other sections for their class.)
- Is there an alternative to an expensive

lab manual? (Several departments have created their own lab manuals at a fraction of the cost. Compare a publisher's \$98 lab manual a student had to purchase for one zoology class with a \$10 lab manual produced in house for another zoology class.)

• What is the actual cost to my students? (When discussing pricing with the publisher's rep, ask what the actual cost will be to the students. Make sure they are including add-ons like duty, tax, exchange rate, etc.)

These are just a few questions we can ask ourselves when choosing material for our classes. Any savings that can be passed along to the students will make a difference...maybe we can take a bite out of the \$278 increase.

(Dr. Gregory Taylor is the dean of the University of Alberta Faculty of Science.) ■

## folio letters to the editor

### Lifeboat economics?

Editor, *folio*:

David Meltzer has tossed out some suggestions on how to deal with a serious flu pandemic (*Planning for a pandemic*, *folio* January 10, 2003) that simply cannot go unchallenged. Coming on the 70th anniversary of the founding of the Third Reich, his solutions give a survivor of that socio-economic experiment a case of the creeps. Two of his suggestions are particularly disturbing because they might just resonate with right-wing governments whose moral compass points steadily in the direction of self-interest.

He suggests that in a pandemic: "policy makers need to consider protecting society's most productive members – those between 20 and 64, for example – instead

of those who are most vulnerable". Apart from the clearly indefensible idea that productivity or contribution to society can somehow be assigned on the basis of age brackets it opens up a Pandora's box of possibilities some of our politicians would be only too glad to embrace. So who else might fall through the mesh of this triage net? Welfare recipients, the mentally ill, the physically handicapped, people living in subsidized housing, prison inmates? The possibilities are endless and limited only by our imagination.

In a second statement he trots out the economic argument: "If the cost of a pandemic is between \$30 and \$70 billion, I am going to allocate my scarce (my italics) resource (a vaccine) according to economic

principles". Is \$70 billion too high a price to protect a vulnerable population? This American economist could have gained a different perspective by looking at total spending in his own country. Of a federal budget of \$1.9 trillion, military spending for 2002 has been projected at \$343.2 billion (Center for Defense Information, *Military Almanac 2001 - 2002*, [www.cdi.org](http://www.cdi.org)). Much of that will have been expended on pulverizing illiterate tribesmen and their "collateral" women and children in some remote corner of Asia or the Middle East. Here, the issue of scarcity does not seem to have been a consideration.

Hans-Juergen Kirstein  
Grande Cache, AB

## folio letters to the editor

*Folio* welcomes letters to the editor. Send your thoughts and opinions via e-mail to [richard.cairney@ualberta.ca](mailto:richard.cairney@ualberta.ca), fax at 492-2997, or by mail to Folio, Office of Public Affairs, 6th Floor General Services Building, Edmonton, Alberta T6G 2H1. Letters may be edited for grammar, style, accuracy and length.

# Magic opera in the works

Department of Music stages first opera in five years

By Gilbert A. Bouchard

*The Magic Flute*, says Dr. Alan Ord, is the perfect opera for the University of Alberta Department of Music to stage. Not only is this Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart 1791 masterpiece one of the great operas of the canon, it's perfect for a student production, says the opera's director and professor of music.

The department's first full-scale opera production since 1997 – boasting full-on period costumes, make-up, sets and a 20-piece chamber orchestra – is being presented in Convocation Hall in the Old Arts Building February 5 - 8.

"We look at productions we mount in a lot of different ways," said Ord. "The music is gorgeous, the opera makes rather unique use of small ensembles as far as the singing goes, you see some extreme ranges of voice, and then there's also the practical consideration that it provides quite a number of roles for students to do," he explained.

"Even so, we're double casting many of the parts to provide as many possibilities for students to sing on stage with an orchestra. It's not every day a university music student gets to sing in a full-staged opera with an orchestra." (There are two complete casts starring in alternate performances.)

Supplementing the students, Ord managed to pull in the internationally acclaimed Edmonton Swiss Men's Choir to sing the priests' chorus.

While the music department mounts scenes from various operas in regular opera workshops, they only mount a fully staged production of an opera on an irregular basis.

"We mount a full opera only when we have the budget, the resources and the student talent to produce a piece," he said. The opera's budget is a modest \$23,000.

"Another reason we chose this opera is that we had students who were capable of singing some challenging roles," he said, adding that one of the more difficult roles is the opera's Queen of the Night (played by Sonya Eagles and Tabis Taylor). "It's a very difficult role that requires a lot of coloratura singing – fast runs, a lot of notes one after the other often difficult to put together – and the ability to sing very high notes. I think that some of the highest notes in standard opera are found in this opera."

Ord contrasts that role with low bass of Sarastro (James Gifford), pointing out how these diametrically opposed characters in the story line also sing on opposite poles of vocal spectrums.

"The symbolism of the opera carries over beautifully on a musical level."

Written specifically for Viennese popular theatre rather than a court theatre, Ord adds that the opera is "basically a fantasy" filled as it is with giant beasts, magic flutes and bells, wizard-like characters and mystical trials.

While Mozart and his librettist Emanuel Schikaneder took *The Magic Flute*'s plot from a collection of fairy tales by Christoph Martin Wieland augmented with loads of Freemasonry references (both artists were Masons), expect the U of A production to highlight the fantastic elements rather than the more esoteric fraternal society symbolisms.

"We're not going to go out of our way to point out the Masonic element in the music or on stage," said Ord, who has directed this opera several times and sang it while a student at Juilliard. "Essentially we're looking and treating this work as a pure fantasy."

*The Magic Flute* details the adventures of Prince Tamino (Joseph Chambrinio, John Huck) and the royal



Marcus Bence

Queen of the Night (Sonya Eagles) and Princess Pamina (Lindsey Sikora) rehearse a scene from *The Magic Flute*, being staged by the Department of Music.

birdcatcher/sidekick Papageno (Mark Cahoon, Sam Hudson) who are rescued from a giant snake by three mysterious spirit ladies under the employ of the 'good' Queen of the Night.

The ladies set the duo off to rescue the beautiful Princess Pamina (Lindsey Sikora, Megan Hall) from the clutches of the 'evil' Sarastro, giving the boys a magic flute and a set of magic bells to help them in their

quest. Upon arriving at Sarastro's temple, Tamino gets a disturbing revelation: the wizard-like Sarastro is really a good guy and the Queen is in reality the evil one.

To be reunited (in marriage) with the Princess and be ushered into the mysteries of the mysterious "Brotherhood of Isis" both Tamino and Pamina have to undergo a series of trials which they survive via the help of the magic flute. ■

# Suzuki offers 10 steps to save the planet

People need to change the way they think about the planet

By Richard Cairney

Modern-day consumerism and unrealistic expectations for constant economic growth have led to environmental ruin, but Dr. David Suzuki says there are 10 simple steps ordinary people can take to help save the planet.

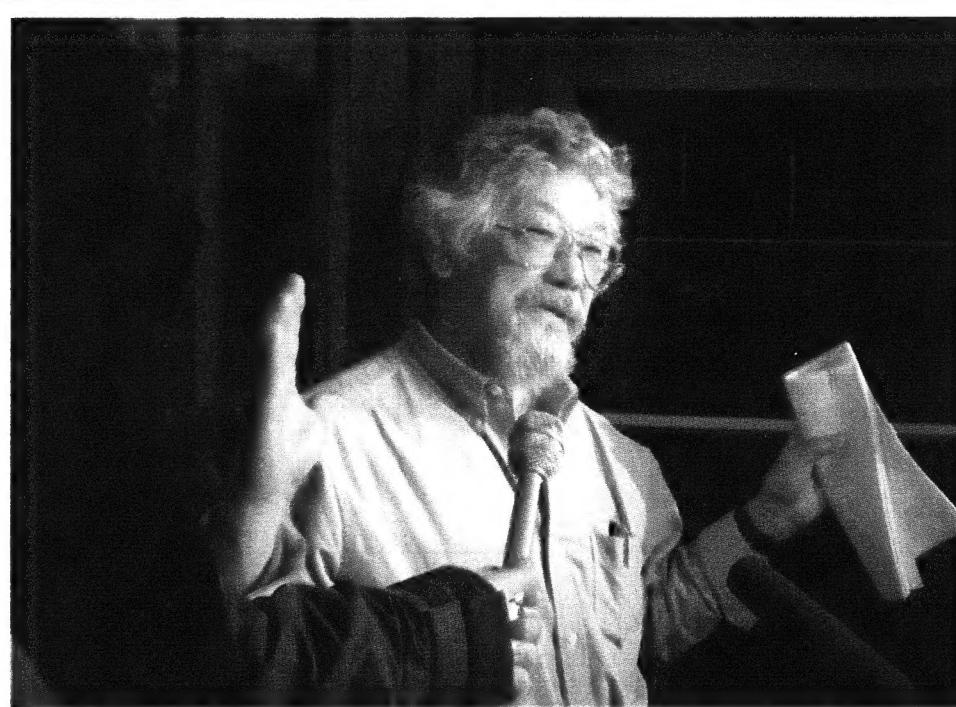
A scientist, broadcaster, author, and environmental activist, Suzuki addressed a sold-out crowd at the University of Alberta Myer Horowitz Theatre recently evening, as part of the U of A Students' Union Revolutionary Speakers lecture series.

Suzuki said the environment's present condition can be traced back to the Great Depression. The stock market crash of 1929 had a devastating global effect and was followed by the outbreak of the Second World War. The war effort breathed life into the American economy and, as the U.S. prepared to shift to a peacetime economy, business interests decided to keep the economy afloat through consumerism.

The following decades of invention, consumption, and disposal have brought

"We are being told that economic growth forever is not only possible, which it is not, but also that it is absolutely necessary. In our society if you're not growing (economically) you are considered to be dying. And steady growth forever, as you all know, is the creed of the cancer cell."

– Dr. David Suzuki



Dr. David Suzuki is offering Canadians "deceptively simple" steps they can take to help reduce our impact on the environment.

the world to the brink of environmental ruin, he said. Today, Suzuki noted, 66 per cent of the North American economy is geared towards the production of consumer goods. And the focus on consumption affects everyone, he added.

"We are being told that economic growth forever is not only possible, which it is not, but also that it is absolutely necessary. In our society if you're not growing (economically) you are considered to be dying," he said. "And steady growth forever, as you all know, is the creed of the cancer cell."

One of the most reliable indicators of economic health, the gross domestic product (GDP), offers a warped sense of what is good for society, he added. When people die in a car crash, he observed, the tragedy is good for the economy because of the economic activity that surrounds it: emergency crews respond to the crash, doctors are paid for their efforts, funeral homes profit – even florists benefit.

"Have you ever heard of such a nutty measure in all your life?" he asked.

Some environmentally concerned economists are now trying to account for the

"free services" the biosphere provides humanity, in the form of filtering water and air and in providing food and raw materials for consumers. Conservative estimates place the annual economic contribution of the environment at \$35 trillion per year – more than double the GDP of the entire world.

Suzuki said that what is needed now, more than anything, is a mental shift. People need to change the way they think about the planet and come up with a "new bottom line" that considers more than financial transactions.

Suzuki said he is often asked, though, what good one person can do. In response, the David Suzuki Foundation has developed a Nature Challenge, which outlines 10 steps ordinary people can take to help the environment.

"These are simple – deceptively simple. When I first saw the list I said 'That's nothing!' I wanted it to hurt," he said.

The list asks, among other things, for people to leave their cars at home one day a week, to reduce their energy bills by 10 per cent a year, to eat one less portion of meat each week (it requires 85 times as much water to produce a serving of meat as it does to produce a serving of potatoes, he said). The complete list is available at [www.davidsuzuki.org](http://www.davidsuzuki.org).

"These sound like small things but the impact would be amazing if we got hundreds of thousands of people involved, and we hope to get one million people doing this," he said. "If we can do that, it will be irresistible: every politician in the country will have to sign on. We could have a huge electoral or political impact as well, and that is the challenge that now faces us." ■

# talks & events

Submit talks and events to Cora Doucette by 9 a.m. one week prior to publication. **Folio Talks and Events listings will no longer accept submissions via fax, mail, e-mail or phone. Please enter events you'd like to appear in Folio and on ExpressNews at: <http://www.expressnews.ualberta.ca/ualberta/L2.cfm?c=10>**

## UNTIL FEB 05 2003

**Fine Arts Open House** Exhibition of Students Work, Fine Arts Program, Faculty of Extension, U of A, 2nd and 3rd floor, University Extension Centre, 8303 - 112 Street, Edmonton, Gallery Hours: 8:30 a.m. to 8:00 p.m., Monday to Thursday, 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m., Friday and 9 a.m. - 12 noon, Saturday. Location: 3rd floor, University Extension Centre.

## UNTIL APR 2003

**Campus Observatory** The Campus Observatory is open to the general public every Thursday night beginning at 8 p.m. during the academic year, with the exception of holiday periods. The Observatory is operated by faculty and student volunteers belonging to SPACE (Students for the Promotion of Astronomy, Culture and Education). For further information, please contact Dr. S. Morsink at 492-3987.

## JAN 16 - 30 2003

**VenturePrize Business Plan Seminars** Edmonton's VenturePrize business plan competition with \$90,000 in prizes is well under way, with four remaining development seminars. The free seminars feature prominent experts from the business community and the U of A. The competition is open to researchers, entrepreneurs and spin-off companies with an idea for a high-growth business. To register visit: [www.ventureprize.com](http://www.ventureprize.com). Location: Telus Centre for Professional Development. Dates (all occur at 6:30-9:30 p.m.): Jan. 16, Finance - Raising Money & Managing Funds Jan. 23, Management & Organization Jan. 30, Selling Your Plan; Making an Effective Presentation for Investors.

## JAN 27 - FEB 01 2003

**International Week** Facing Fear: Human Security in a Globalizing World. International Week will focus on security and our role as global citizens. It is an opportunity to examine the roots of oppression, feelings of insecurity, and issues such as war, inequality, environment and personal empowerment. Events include: films, speakers, workshops, discussions, and performances. Location: Around Campus. Web site: [www.international.ualberta.ca/iweek](http://www.international.ualberta.ca/iweek)

## JAN 24 2003

**Book Launch** Book Launch of Dr. Bohdan Harasymiw's New Study, Post-Communist Ukraine. Bohdan Harasymiw, Department of Political Science, University of Calgary, will give a talk on his newly-released study on contemporary Ukraine. Starts at 7:00 p.m. Heritage Lounge, Athabasca Hall. Call 492-2972, or e-mail [cius@ualberta.ca](mailto:cius@ualberta.ca) for more information.

**Department of Biological Sciences** Brad Major, Department of Biological Sciences, U of A, speaks on "Immunological 'learning': What fish need to know about their pathogens to survive the 'big test' in schools," at 3:30 p.m. in Room M-149 of the Biological Sciences Building. Host: John Bell. Web site: <http://www.biology.ualberta.ca/courses/genet605/in dex.php?Page=399>

**Department of Philosophy** Professor Richard Zach, Department of Philosophy, University of Calgary, will speak on "The Development of the Decision Problem in the Context of Hilbert's Philosophy." Location: Humanities Centre 4-29. Time: 3:00 p.m.

**Centre for Research on Literacy Research Luncheon Seminar** Centre for Research on Literacy Research Luncheon Seminars. From 12:30 - 1:30 p.m. Exemplary Teaching of Language Arts: Teacher Knowledge and Practice, Elizabeth Tams, Edmonton Public Schools. As a light lunch is catered, please RSVP to Paula Kelly, 492-4250 ext. 292 or [paula.kelly@ualberta.ca](mailto:paula.kelly@ualberta.ca) Location: 651a Education South.

**Department of Physiology** Quansheng Zhu, Department of Physiology, U of A, will speak on "Structural and functional study on the C-terminal region of human anion exchanger, AE1." Time: 3:00-4:00 p.m. Location: 207 HMRC.

**Department of Public Health Sciences** Environmental Health Sciences seminar. Dr. Wendy Gati, Department of Pharmacology, presents: "Determinants of Cytotoxic Drug Activity in Cells from Patients with Myelodysplastic Syndrome." 2:00 p.m. Location: 10-120 CSB.

**Friday Colloquium** Event sponsored by Physics Department. Ken Dill, Professor, Department Pharmaceutical Chemistry, University of California, San Francisco, presents "The Energy Landscapes of

Protein Folding." 3:10 p.m. V-120 Physics Building.

## JAN 25 2003

**Philosophers' Cafe** Philosophers' Cafe - an opportunity for the public to engage in informal, lively conversation about a philosophical or topical issue. 2 to 3:30 p.m. Topic: Are science and spirituality naturally opposed? Guest Scholars: Jane Samson, Professor of History and Classics, and Muzaffar Iqbal, President - Centre for Islam & Science Moderator: Martin Tweedale, Professor of Philosophy. Location: Nina's Restaurant, 10139 - 124 Street.

**Career and Placement Services (CaPS)** Two workshops for Arts students run: 1) Resume Writing; and 2) Interview Skills. Pre-register at CaPS, 2-100 SUB. Check out our web site for details and cost. Location: CaPS Classroom; 4-02 SUB. Web site: [www.ualberta.ca/caps](http://www.ualberta.ca/caps)

**Career and Placement Services (CaPS)** Workshop Career Selection for Arts Students. Time: 9 a.m. - 12 p.m. Pre-register today at CaPS, 2-100 SUB. Location: CaPS Resource Centre - 2-100 SUB. Web site: [www.ualberta.ca/caps](http://www.ualberta.ca/caps)

**Department of Music** Master of Music Recital. Vaughn Roste, Choral Conducting Christ and Anti-Christ. Featuring works by Hoveland, Haydn, Lauridsen, Lotti, Handel, Gawthrop, Willan, Barber, Monteverdi and Belmont. McDougall United Church. Free admission. 8:00 p.m.

## JAN 27 - FEB 06 2003

**Career and Placement Services (CaPS)** Career Forums. Find out more about your field of interest from industry experts and take part in a great networking opportunity. Check out the following forums: Human Resources; Psychology; Marketing & PR; Anthropology and Political Science. Tickets just \$4 at CaPS (\$2 for Poli Sci) or \$5 at the door. Location: Various locations on campus. Web site: [www.ualberta.ca/caps](http://www.ualberta.ca/caps)

## JAN 27 2003

**Department of Philosophy** Dr. Sukjae Lee, Department of Philosophy, Ohio State University at Newark, "Leibniz on Divine Concurrency." Location: Humanities Centre Lecture Theatre 4. Time: 4:30 p.m.

**Department of Biological Sciences** Department of Biological Sciences Botany 600 Seminar Series. Carla Starchuk, Department of Biological Sciences, U of A presents a seminar on "Chloroplast fission" at 12:00 noon in Room M-145 of the Biological Sciences Building. Web site: <http://www.biology.ualberta.ca/courses/bot600/>

**University Teaching Services** David Cook, Studies in Medical Education presents: An Introduction to PowerPoint for Teaching and Presentations. An overview of PowerPoint basics for those who have limited experience. Sound teaching practices when creating visual presentations will be highlighted. Participants are encouraged to bring their teaching ideas. 3:00 - 4:30 p.m. CAB 243. Web site: [www.ualberta.ca/~uts](http://www.ualberta.ca/~uts)

## JAN 28 2003

**Research Services Office** The RSO and Innovation Alberta are hosting a free lunch and learning session on commercializing research for faculty and graduate students in the Faculty of Agriculture, Forestry and Home Economics. Have you ever wondered about patenting, licensing or starting your own company based on your research? Are you unsure about securing venture capital financing? If so, this session is for you! Noon to 1:30. Location: Room 1-13 in the Agriculture/Forestry Building. To register (space is limited to 40), send your request by e-mail with your full name, title and contact information to [info@rso.ualberta.ca](mailto:info@rso.ualberta.ca)

**Department of English** Writer Suzette Mayr will read from her work. 2:00 p.m. Location: HC L-3.

**Health Promotion & WorkLife Services** Resiliency in Children. In this lunch & learn presentation you will learn about the things parents can do to help strengthen their children so that they can cope and succeed. Seating is limited! To register or for more information contact: Sarah Gaudon @ 0659 or e-mail

# CHEEP proves valuable

*Youngsters and masters students benefit from program*

By Ryan Smith



Members of the CHEEP team are making a difference in the lives of their young students.

Four months ago, Shana

Cunningham's two-year-old son Logan would rarely speak. Now, she says, "the flood gates have opened."

Logan is one of 14 children with developmental delays who are participating in the first year of the Corbett Hall Early Education Program (CHEEP) at the University of Alberta. Along with six peer models - youngsters without developmental delays - the children attend the program from Tuesday to Friday for three hours a day. They receive visits at their homes from their therapists on Mondays.

The program includes a staff of seven and a rotating group of students in the U of A Masters of Speech Pathology program who can fill one of their three required placements with CHEEP. The children, aged two to four, are put through a standard early education program and receive full-time attention from a speech-language pathologist as well as regular visits with occupational and physical therapists.

"This year we're working with children who have a wide range of developmental delays," said Jamie Maschmeyer, the program's full-time speech-language pathologist and one of the developers of the program. "Some children have language delays, others have multiple delays, such as cognitive and fine motor; that is, they have trouble tying their

shoes or running and jumping."

Shana Cunningham said her son had been diagnosed with a severe expressive language delay.

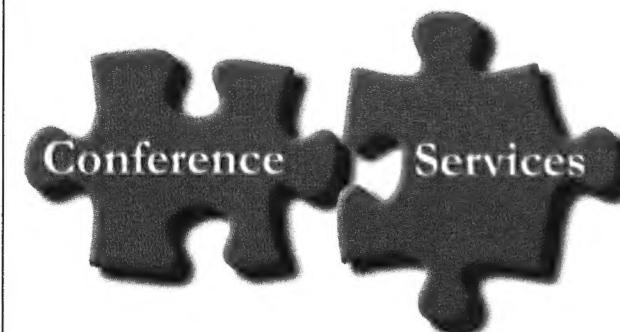
"He understands perfectly when you talk to him and, for example, tell him to put away his teddy bear or go to his room, but he just wouldn't speak beyond saying 'Momma' or 'Dadda'" Cunningham said. "But the difference in him after just four months (in CHEEP) is incredible. Now he puts together eight and nine-word sentences."

"There are about six or seven other early education programs like this one in the city, and the others are amazing and work really well, too," Maschmeyer said. "The benefit in having the program here at Corbett Hall is that it is a convenient way to give our masters students clinical experience and at the same time conduct research and improve our techniques more easily."

Kim Mushey, a second-year masters student in speech pathology who is currently working for CHEEP, said the young students also get "a double amount of therapy" in the program because there are so many specialists and therapists in Corbett Hall who also contribute to the program.

"I'm ecstatic to be here. The staff are incredibly knowledgeable, the materials are great, and the ideas are terrific," Mushey added. "I've only been here two weeks so far and I've already learned a ton." ■

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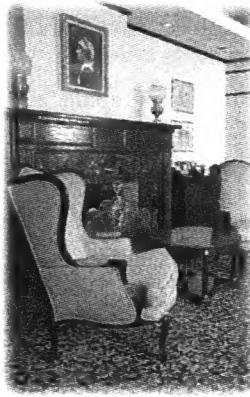
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**JAN 29 2003**

**Dept. of English** Luciana Duranti - "Why Archive?" Event time is noon. Location: HC L-3.

**PHS Colloquium & Grand Rounds** From 12 Noon to 12:50 p.m. Epidemiology: Guest Speaker: Dr. Shelley Bull, Senior Investigator and Research Scholar: Division of Epidemiology and Biostatistics, Samuel Lumenfeld Research Institute of Mount Sinai Hospital, Toronto, Ontario: "Detection - Modeling of Allele Sharing: Can we do Anything about Heterogeneity?" Location: Room 2-117, CSB. Web site: www.phs.ualberta.ca

**University Teaching Services** Getting Your Message Across: Information Design. Do your students struggle to understand the concepts you are conveying in class? Have you wondered how to make course concepts more interesting? Principles of information design address three key concepts to enhance: student understanding, student motivation, general readability of information. This session is for people who want to create materials that are clear, appealing, and conducive to learning. You will acquire guidelines for enhancing learning, motivation, and the visual appeal of educational resources. 3:00-4:30 p.m. CAB 243. www.ualberta.ca/~uts

**JAN 30 2003**

**Colloquium Talk** "Mathematical Modelling of Capillary Formation and Development in Tumor Angiogenesis" by Howard A. Levine, Distinguished Professor of Liberal Arts and Sciences, Iowa State University. From 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. Location: CAB 657.

**Department of Music** Lecture/Workshop with Visiting Artist Brigitte Poulin, piano. Studio 27, Fine Arts Building 2-7. Free admission. 2:00 p.m.

**Department of Music** Visiting Artist Recital Brigitte Poulin, piano. Studio 27, Fine Arts Building 2-7. 8:00 p.m.

**Watersheds, Wetlands and Oceans** Dr. David Lavigne, International Fund for Animal Welfare, "Marine Mammals and Fisheries, Science and Politics." Location: 10013 Engineering Teaching Learning Centre. Time: 4:30 p.m. Web site: www.ualberta.ca/ERSC/es.htm

**JAN 31 2003**

**Department of Biological Sciences** Dr. Linda E. Graham, Professor of Botany and Environmental Studies, Department of Botany, University of Wisconsin, Madison presents "Microbial Associations of Early Land Plants: Relevance to the Fossil Record and Carbon Cycle Impact of Earliest Plants." at 2:30 p.m. (refreshments at 2:15 p.m.), hosted by Dr. Ruth Stockey. Location: M 141 Biological Sciences Building.

**International Week: Uniting Rhythms of Resistance Concert** Uniting Rhythms of Resistance Concert will be a party to wrap up International Week 2003. Rhythms of Resistance will feature local Hip-Hop artists ReflectUS, Vizion Issa, and WARPARTY, punk band Passion//Revolt, Singer/Songwriter Guy Smith, the Aboriginal Women's Vocal Ensemble Asani, and the Argentine Tango Troupe, Tango Norte. Tickets available at SUB Info/Ticket Centre, or the International Centre. \$10 in advance, \$12 at the door. Location: Myer Horowitz Theatre. From 7:30 to 10:00 p.m. Doors open at 7:00 p.m. www.international.ualberta.ca/iweek

**Department of Biological Sciences** Department of Biological Sciences Ecology Seminar Series (Biology 631). David Lavigne, International Marine Mammal Association, (ERSC visitor) presents a talk on "Wildlife conservation & the pursuit of ecological sustainability," at 12:00 noon in Room M-149 of the Biological Sciences Building. www.biology.ualberta.ca/courses/biol631/

**Department of Biological Sciences** Phil Heiter, Centre for Molecular Medicine and Therapeutics, University of British Columbia, speaks on "Determinants of genome stability and cell cycle progression," at 3:30 p.m. in Room M-149 of the Biological Sciences Building. Host: Neil Adames. Web site: www.biology.ualberta.ca/courses/genet605/index.php?Page=399

**Department of Political Science** Alejandro Colas, University of Sussex, UK, presents "The Power of Representation: Democratic Politics and Global Governance." 3:30 p.m. Location: Business 1-5.

**Leitch Lecture** The Merv Leitch, Q.C. Memorial Lecture "Trade and the Environment: Competition, Co-operation or Confusion?" delivered by Professor Donald McRae, Professor of Law and Hyman Soloway Chair in Business and Trade Law, University of Ottawa Law School - Common Law Section 2003 Merv Leitch QC Visiting Chair in Law. From 12 noon - 1:00 p.m. McLennan Ross Hall, 237 Law Centre. Refreshments will be served. RSVP, if attending: 492-5590, email: dean@law.ualberta.ca

**University Teaching Services** Brian Nielsen, Physical Education and Recreation, facilitating the session: Olde Dogs Learning New Tricks. The journey

upon which veteran instructors embark to adopt current available technology to teach large classes is often not a smooth one. The difficulties and advantages of adopting technology in teaching are the focus of this session. noon to 1:00 p.m. CAB 219. www.ualberta.ca/~uts/

**FEB 01 2003**

**Department of Music** MSA Formal. For ticket and event information, please contact the MSA Executive by e-mail: th@ualberta.ca 6:00 p.m.

**FEB 03 2003**

**Department of Biological Sciences** Department of Biological Sciences Botany 600 Seminar Series. Markus Thorman, Department of Biological Sciences, U of A presents "The importance of fungal diversity and community structure in peatlands," at 12 noon in Room M-145 of the Biological Sciences Building. www.biology.ualberta.ca/courses/bot600/

**Department of Music** Music at Noon, Convocation Hall Student Recital Series featuring students from the Department of Music. Free admission. 12:10 p.m.

**Department of Cell Biology** Visiting Lecturer Dr. Peter S. McPherson, Department of Neurology and Neurosurgery Director, Cell Biology of Excitable Tissues Group Montreal Neurological Institute, presents: "Molecular mechanisms in clathrin-mediated membrane budding revealed through subcellular proteomics." From 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. Location: 5-10 Medical Sciences Building. www.ualberta.ca/cellbiology

**University Teaching Services** Billy Stream, Physical Education and Recreation, facilitates the session Beyond Lecturing and Regurgitation: Strategies for Fostering Critical Thinking. After exploring the concept of critical thinking and its importance in higher education, several strategies to foster critical thinking will be introduced experientially. Based on participants' preferences, we will go through selected activities. 3 - 5 p.m. CAB 281. www.ualberta.ca/~uts/

**FEB 04 2003**

**The Louis Desrochers Lecture Series in Études canadiennes/Canadian Studies** Guest: Mme Renée Dupuis, Lawyer - Human Rights, Aboriginal Rights and Commissioner for the Indian Claims Commission. The lecture will be presented in French with 30% content in English. Free. 7:30 p.m. Location: Centre Saint-Jean, Faculté Saint-Jean.

**Sources and Inspiration in Contemporary Printmaking** Join Professor Sean Caulfield, Canada Research Chair (Printmaking), for a presentation about his current research. He will highlight works of art from the collection that have influenced his art making and teaching. Then join Jim Corrigan, Curator, U of A Art and Artifact Collection for a tour of the Print Study Centre. Refreshments to follow. Program begins at 7 p.m. Location: 2-20 Fine Arts Building. www.museums.ualberta.ca

**Experience Africa** Experience Africa by participating in a 6-week cultural study program at the University of Natal, South Africa from June 23 - August 1. Participate in development projects and tour a traditional Zulu homestead in addition to course work. Information Session Tuesday February 4 at 3:30 p.m. Location: International Centre.

**FEB 05 2003**

**Brazilian Summer** Learn Portuguese in Brazil, the land of the Amazon and Carnaval! Participate in a 4-week Portuguese Language program from July 8 - August 8 at the Pontifica Universidade Católica do Rio de Janeiro. Information session February 5 at 1:00 p.m. Location: International Centre.

**Summer in Europe** The U of A offers a 4-week European Study program at the Université Catholique de Lille, France. Choose from June 2-27 or July 2-30. Information Session Wednesday February 5 at 3:00 p.m. Location: International Centre.

**Department of Biological Sciences** Dr. Brett Finlay, Professor, Biotechnology Laboratory, University of British Columbia, Vancouver, British Columbia, "Pathogenic Escherichia coli - from Molecules to Vaccines," 4 p.m., in Classroom 227, Medical Sciences Building. www.biology.ualberta.ca/courses/micrb606/index.php?Page=1813

**Dept. of English** Vercrow Ripper - "Scared into the Sacred. The Films of Vercrow Ripper." Event time is noon. Location: HC L-3.

**FEB 05 - 08 2003**

**Department of Music** The U of A Opera. Full Opera Performance of The Magic Flute by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart Alan Ord, Artistic Director Sylvia Shadick-Taylor, Repetiteur, Tanya Prochazka, Music Director and Conductor, with The Edmonton Swiss Men's Choir, The University Symphony Orchestra. 8 p.m.

**Health Promotion & WorkLife Services** Research on the connection between social support/relationships and physical health has found

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**University Teaching Services** Todd Rogers, Educational Psychology, presents How to Assess Learning With Multiple Choice Items. Assessment has been described as an engine that drives student learning. This workshop explores why we assess and reviews some of the guidelines for writing multiple choice items. Participants will have opportunities to write multiple choice items during the session and are encouraged to bring samples of their own. 3:45 p.m. CAB 281.

#### FEB 06 2003

**Jones Memorial Lecture** The Faculty of Education and the Eidem family present the Jones Memorial Lecture in Deafness. Dr. Mary Ann Bibby and Ms. Kathern Lawrence, teacher of the Deaf, will speak on research and development work that was done in the area of Hearing Health Care in Zimbabwe. It will focus on school-age and early intervention procedures and concerns in developing countries and Newborn Infant Screening developments in Alberta. Title: "Elephants, Education and Early Childhood Interventions: Families and Deaf Children in Zimbabwe, Manicaland and Alberta," 7 - 9 p.m., Room 2-115 Education North. ASL/English Interpretation, Amplification and Real-Time Captioning available.

**Spanish in Mexico** Learn Spanish in Mexico! Participate in a 4-week Spanish Language and Culture program at the Universidad Autonoma de

Guadalajara. Choose from June 16-July 11 or July 14-August 8. Information Session Thursday Feb. 6 at 12:30. Location: International Centre.

**University Teaching Services** Jack Scott, DiTRL Laboratory, Biological Sciences, presents Create a Poster to Showcase Your Ideas. This session reviews basic design principles for creating eye-catching posters. The hands-on portion involves participants in creating a poster and contains instructions on sending the finished product to the CNS plotter. Knowledge of PowerPoint is essential. 4:30-6:30 p.m. Technology Training Centre. Web site: [www.ualberta.ca/~uts](http://www.ualberta.ca/~uts)

**Watersheds, Wetlands and Oceans** Event sponsored by Environmental Research and Studies Centre. Dr. Uldis Silins, Renewable Resources, "Wildland water in Alberta: Outlook through a foggy crystal ball." Location: 1013 Engineering Teaching Learning Centre. 4:30 p.m. [www.ualberta.ca/ERSC/es.htm](http://www.ualberta.ca/ERSC/es.htm)

#### FEB 07 2003

**Professional Development Day** The School of Library and Information Studies at the U of A is hosting its annual Professional Development Day. This year's speaker will be Cate McNeely, Deputy Chief Librarian of the Richmond Public Library. She will be joined by Punch Jackson from Alberta Community Development and Linda Goyette, writer-editor of Edmonton: A City Called Home and current and former student speakers. Free. Consult our Web page for the detailed schedule. Location: Banquet Room Lister Hall. [www.ualberta.ca/~lissa1/pdday.htm](http://www.ualberta.ca/~lissa1/pdday.htm)

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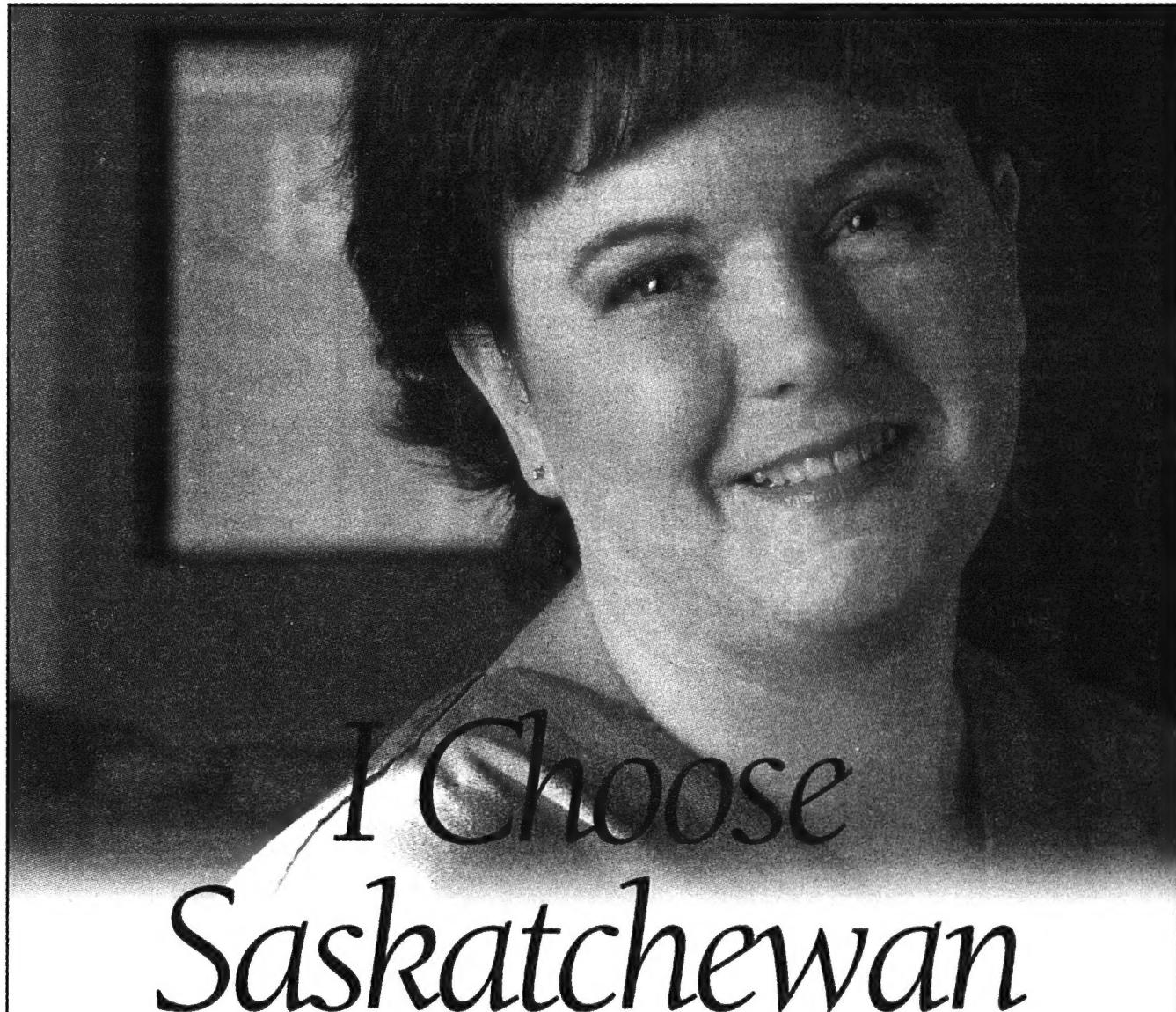
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**Department of Biological Sciences**  
Department of Biological Sciences Molecular Biology and Genetics Research Group and Genetics 605 Seminar Series. Tara Beattie, Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, University of Calgary presents "Functional Interactions within the Human Telomerase Complex," at 3 p.m. in Room M-149 of the Biological Sciences Building. [www.biology.ualberta.ca/courses/genet605/](http://www.biology.ualberta.ca/courses/genet605/)

**University Teaching Services** Deborah Ekerkes, Student Ombudsman, facilitates "Academic Integrity: A Classroom Approach" This session examines all aspects of Academic Integrity with the focus on how to deal with academic dishonesty in the classroom, and how to promote academic integrity. An update on "Truth In Education: TIE Integrity into Learning" program will be given. 12 -1:30 p.m. CAB 219. [www.ualberta.ca/~uts](http://www.ualberta.ca/~uts)

# positions

The records arising from this competition will be managed in accordance with provisions of the Alberta Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (FOIPP). The University of Alberta hires on the basis of merit. We are committed to the principle of equity of employment. We welcome diversity and encourage applications from all qualified women and men, including persons with disabilities, members of visible minorities, and Aboriginal persons. With regard to teaching positions: All qualified candidates are encouraged to apply; however, Canadians and permanent residents will be given priority.

## RESEARCH COORDINATOR ALBERTA HEART HEALTH PROJECT

The AHHP dissemination phase 1999-2004 is investigating how the knowledge and experience of health promotion capacity building can be disseminated within a health care system that has undergone significant restructuring and change.

Partners include Alberta Health and Wellness (AHW), Canadian Institutes of Health Research and the University of Alberta Centre for Health Promotion Studies and Regional Health Authorities.

Position: Research Coordinator

Status: 18 months

FTE: 28 hours

Salary: Commensurate with qualifications and experience.

Responsibilities: Reporting to the Provincial Coordinator, Alberta Heart Health Project, the Research Coordinator will:

Lead research design and implementation

Provide research coordination to the project team

Prepare written research reports, publications, presentations and documentation ensuring timely submission

Manage data collection and analysis

Liase with RHAs, AHHP Project Team and Alberta Health and Wellness

Assist students with related research

Supervise the research contract staff

Some travel required

Qualifications:

Minimum Masters level degree

Expertise in quantitative and qualitative research design essential

Experience with quantitative data analysis using SPSS

Experience in Alberta's health system desirable

Deadline for receipt of applications is February 13, 2003. Acknowledgement of receipt of applications will be provided only to those candidates selected for interview.

Applications should be forwarded to:

Dr Kim Raine, Director

Centre for Health Promotion Studies

5-10 University Extension Centre  
8303-112 Street  
Edmonton, AB T6G 2T4  
Fax 492-9579  
E-mail [ahhp@ualberta.ca](mailto:ahhp@ualberta.ca)

## TEACHING POSITION MEDICAL MICROBIOLOGY AND IMMUNOLOGY

The Department of Medical Microbiology & Immunology at the University of Alberta seeks a highly qualified individual who will make a major contribution to our undergraduate teaching program. Duties include offering courses in Medical Microbiology for nursing students and other allied health science professionals (approximately 80 contact hours/year), administering our Teaching Notation program for graduate students, and providing assistance to faculty in course development and enrichment. Preference will be given to candidates who wish to pursue some research activity in addition to teaching. This research might be in the area of developing new educational methods or approaches to teaching microbiology and immunology at the university level, or it might be in the form of an ongoing basic research project, likely in collaboration with an existing faculty member. The successful candidate will have a Ph.D. in Medical Microbiology or a related discipline and some experience teaching at the University level. Experience with Web-based course development would be a strong asset. The successful candidate will be appointed to a full-time academic position as a Faculty Service Officer II (\$47,184 to \$66,816 per annum) or III (\$58,636 to \$83,860 per annum), depending on qualifications and experience.

Applications including a curriculum vitae and the names of three referees should be sent by January 31, 2003 to:

Dr Janet A Robertson  
Acting Chair  
Department of Medical Microbiology and Immunology  
University of Alberta  
Edmonton, Alberta, Canada T6G 2H7

# notices

Please send notices attention Folio, 6th floor General Services Building, University of Alberta, T6G 2H1 or e-mail [public.affairs@ualberta.ca](mailto:public.affairs@ualberta.ca). Notices should be received by 3 p.m. one week prior to publication.

## 2003-2004 KILLAM ANNUAL PROFESSORSHIPS

Applications for the 2003-2004 Killam Annual Professorships are now available. All regular, continuing, full-time academic faculty members who are not on leave during 2003-2004 are eligible to apply. Deans, Department Chairs and other senior University administrators with personnel responsibilities shall not normally be eligible for Killam Annual Professorships. Associate Deans and Associate Department Chairs are eligible providing they do not have personnel responsibilities. Up to eight Killam Annual Professors will be selected by a subcommittee of the Killam Trusts Committee; no more than two Professorships shall be awarded to staff members in any one Faculty in any given year. Each Killam Annual Professor shall be presented with a \$3,500 prize and a

commemorative scroll. The duties of Killam Annual Professors shall not be changed from those that they regularly perform as academic staff members.

The primary criterion for selection shall be a record of outstanding scholarship and teaching over three or more years as evidenced by any or all of research publications, creative activities, presented papers, supervision of graduate students, and courses taught. The secondary criterion shall be substantial contributions to the community beyond the university, as evidenced by community involvement directly linked to the applicant's university responsibilities and activities.

Awards are tenable for 12 months commencing 1 July 2003. The completed application must be received at the Office of the Vice-President

(Research), 3-7 University Hall, by 4:30 pm, Friday 28 February 2003. The awardees shall be announced by early May, and they will be formally recognized at the Killam Luncheon in the autumn of 2003.

Applications and further details are available on the home page of the Vice-President (Research) at: <http://www.ualberta.ca/VPRESEARCH/>

Please contact Annette Kujda, Administrative Assistant, Office of the Vice-President (Research) at extension 2-8342 or email: [annette.kujda@ualberta.ca](mailto:annette.kujda@ualberta.ca) if you have any questions.

#### EFF - UNIVERSITY TEACHING RESEARCH FUND

##### APPLICATION DEADLINE

The deadline for receipt of applications to the EFF - University Teaching Research Fund is February 15.

This fund was established to encourage and support research on teaching-learning. The primary purpose of this fund is to enhance the level and quality

of teaching research and curricula development in the University. Funding priorities include research projects that have the potential of contributing to the increased effectiveness of university teaching, learning, and curricula development.

Application forms are available from the Office of the Vice-Provost, 2-10 University Hall, phone: 2-1503; or from our website

<http://www.ualberta.ca/provost/awards&funding/awards&funding.htm>

##### FMS CHAIR SELECTION COMMITTEE

A Selection Committee for the Chair of the Department of Finance and Management Science has been established. The incumbent, Dr. Prem Talwar, has agreed to stand for another term. In accordance with GFC regulations, the Committee is soliciting comments/suggestions by January 31, 2003. All correspondence should be sent to Michael B. Percy, Dean, School of Business, 4-40 Business Building.

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Through a partnership between Neuroscience Canada and the AHFMR, both organizations are pleased to announce the availability of a limited number of prestigious, jointly funded graduate Studentship and post-doctoral Fellowship awards for outstanding trainees studying in the area of Neuroscience\*.

The Neuroscience Canada/AHFMR Studentships will be valued at \$29,500 per annum (including a \$1,500 research allowance). The Neuroscience Canada/AHFMR post-doctoral Fellowships will be valued at up to \$52,000 per annum (including a \$3,000 research allowance). These awards are available for either Fellowship or Clinical Fellowship training.

One award in total will be reserved for trainees working in the area of mental illness and concurrent disorders as determinants of homelessness.

Awards in both categories will be for a maximum of three years and tenable in Alberta only.

Application should be made using the regular AHFMR Studentship and post-doctoral Fellowship applications forms

and clearly marked on the first page that the candidate "wishes to be considered for a Neuroscience Canada/AHFMR award".

The deadline for receipt of applications is **March 1, 2003**. The opportunity to apply for these awards may be repeated in subsequent competitions.

All additional AHFMR eligibility criteria for Studentship and Fellowship awards will apply to these joint awards.

These awards are intended to attract future scientists into the neurosciences, and so are confined to trainees entering graduate studies or within the first six months of graduate studies. Post-doctoral Fellows are eligible to apply either prior to or within the first six months of their first year of post-doctoral training. ■

For more information please check our web site at [www.ahfmr.ab.ca](http://www.ahfmr.ab.ca) or e-mail [mark.taylor@ahfmr.ab.ca](mailto:mark.taylor@ahfmr.ab.ca) or call AHFMR's Director of Grants and Awards at (780) 423-5727.

\* Neuroscience is defined as the study of the brain and the nervous system. It includes the study of brain development, sensation and perception, learning and memory, movement, sleep, stress, aging and neurological and psychiatric disorders. It also includes the molecules, cells and genes responsible for nervous system functioning as well as health services and population studies on mental health and diseases.

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By Tom Elsworth

**A** couple of decades ago, Dr. Mark Peppler collected baseball cards. That pastime helped Peppler develop the idea for a deck of user-friendly, educational cards to help students worldwide learn about the tiny organisms that bug us.

The current method of studying microbes – moving from textbook to textbook to compare differently formatted descriptions – is complicated by an incomplete number of bug images. So, about four years ago, Peppler, a professor in the University of Alberta Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry, got the idea that the sports card concept would be a useful format and learning tool to help students learn about the bugs. The result is MicrobeCards, a package of profiles that borrows the format of sports collector cards.

"What we have with MicrobeCards is a lot of information in a standardized format," Peppler said.

Peppler first approached sports-card king Topps to market the product. They loved the concept, but declined to produce them, saying they only do sports cards.

From there, Peppler, with help and guidance from the U of A Research Services Office, pitched the idea to the American Society for Microbiology (ASM) in Washington, D.C. The largest organization of its type in the world, ASM immediately saw the learning-tool potential of MicrobeCards and signed on to edit and distribute them. One of the advantages of working with ASM is that organization's ties to Internet marketer Amazon.com, which had been taking advance orders for MicrobeCards since they were first posted on its Web site.

An initial printing of 5,000 decks was assembled by hand locally into box sets in November. MicrobeCards retail for \$43.95 and are available in the U of A bookstore and through the ASM Web site, among other retail locations. Peppler hopes the cards become required reading

for certain microbiology and infectious disease courses.

There are 106 cards in a deck, 103 of which are devoted to individual microbes. The remaining three cards list abbreviations, provide topic checklists, and acknowledge project contributors. The cards are packaged in a bright, deep-purple box and are designed to jump out at you in store displays.

MicrobeCards are sorted into different species, with each species identified by a different colour. This enables users to sort them into categories. "If you place the cards in nine-pocket plastic sleeves and place them in a ring binder, it's very easy for a user to organize and review the fronts and backs of the cards," Peppler said.

The main art on the front of each card is a micro-organism with up to four inset images that highlight rashes, swelling, tissue sections, and diagnostic tests. The back of the cards contains an outline of the human body accompanied by pertinent microbe information and suggested treatments for related ailments. Peppler is "extremely pleased" with the way the cards turned out. In particular, he's impressed with the reproduction quality of the images.

"You see the specimens on a computer screen and you think, 'that colour won't be nearly as vivid when the cards are printed' but I was knocked out by the reproduction. If anything, the specimens came out brighter," said Peppler.

Peppler acknowledges the colourful images of the nasty little microbes displayed on the front of MicrobeCards are a sight for sore eyes. Still, he emphasizes the medical role MicrobeCards play in identifying and combating the critters that afflict us, and he is quick to reject the suggestion that MicrobeCards are "a dumbing down" of science.

"How can something that helps students make more informed decisions be dumb?" ■

## HELP FOR STUDENTS IS IN THE CARDS



Dr. Mark Peppler has developed MicrobeCards to help teach students about the organisms that bug us.

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